

From: gene pollard [mailto:genepoll@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 9:54 PM
To: SR 520 Bridge SDEIS
Subject: Comment on SR520 Design

I-064-001

1. The design should provide for light rail in the future.

I-064-002

2. The design should include provision for pedestrians & bicycles. This would be a great thing for Seattle and the Eastside. Bicyclists & pedestrians would willingly pay a reasonable toll for the experience, thereby adding to the income stream. When 5 or 10,000 run a marathon across the bridge, that could be significant income, not to mention weekenders and people going to work on the other side.

I-064-003

3. Design it right the first time, including 1 & 2 above. Think ahead, not short term. Make this a world-class project by its design, not simply a transportation solution. Why not open a competition to international designers? Isn't it a little parochial to keep it inside our little box? Obviously, my point is, "THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX."

I-064-004

I-064-001

Through coordination with Sound Transit, WSDOT has designed the Preferred Alternative to have enhanced compatibility with potential future light rail compared to the SDEIS design options. Light rail could be accommodated either by converting the HOV lanes for rail use or by adding light-rail only lanes. See Chapter 2 of the Final EIS for further discussion.

I-064-002

The Preferred Alternative includes a 14-foot-wide bicycle/pedestrian path along the north side of SR 520 through the Montlake area and across the Evergreen Point Bridge to the Eastside.

I-064-003

Your comment about collecting a user fee/toll for bicyclists and pedestrians is noted. At this time, the tolling authority has not recommended tolling bicycles and pedestrians in the SR 520 Bridge Toll Proposal, available for review at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR520Bridge/SDEIS.htm>.

I-064-004

Comment noted.